



Captain Matthew E. Miller
Commanding Officer

Underway

May 04, 2009

Dear MIDGETT Family and Friends,

The deployment is now more than half over and we are soon to begin our transit to San Diego for our three weeks of training. The crew has worked exceptionally hard, and we seized one boat loaded with 1.5 tons of cocaine and four smugglers. Although the number of seizures do not match last patrol, the crew's effort has been just as great. In fact, the tactics we developed and executed last patrol have been adopted by the Colombian Coast Guard, and as a result they seized four boats while working with us this patrol. So in the big picture our efforts have been just as effective. In addition, our Engineers achieved an engineering feat this patrol, by conducting repairs to the clutch on our Number One Main Diesel Engine. I will spare you the technical details and simply state that these repairs, conducted during a short port call in Costa Rica was nothing short of miraculous.

We have closely followed the H1N1 virus threat. While we were scheduled to stop in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico on our way to San Diego, we cancelled that port call due to a myriad of reasons. Instead, we will likely arrive in San Diego a few days earlier than originally scheduled, which will allow us to prepare for our three weeks of intense training. The crew has been trained on the preventative precautions we need to take while in San Diego with regard to the H1N1 virus.

As many of you may know, we plan on allowing a limited number of family and friends to ride back with us from San Diego to Seattle. If you are one of the brave that has been chosen to ride home with us, I look forward to having you onboard. I would just remind you, that we will be fully operational, and as such there is always the possibility of being extended or diverted during our transit back to Seattle. Although our patrol officially ends in Seattle on Wednesday, June 10th, if we have good weather on our way home and we aren't diverted for a case, I hope to arrive back in Seattle on Tuesday, June 9th. I will update you as we begin our transit home.

As a final reminder, Angela Keane is our OMBUDSMEN and she will be transferring from MIDGETT this summer, so we are in need of someone to fill her shoes. The OMBUDSMEN is a critically important link between the command and the families. If anyone is interested please do not hesitate to notify me or Angela of your interest. She has done an exceptional job for us all, please contact her if you have questions or need assistance during our deployment. Her contact information is:

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Serving together,



Matthew Miller